

BROWN INJURY CAUSES ANGRY SCENES

Corinthians 'Get Bird'

Wycombe Wanderers 0, Corinthian Casuals 2

FLASHPOINT of an emotion-charged Isthmian League game at Loakes Park on Saturday was a 48th minute collision between Wanderers' goalkeeper Ken Brown and Casuals' dashing leader David Jacobs. Bleeding and bandaged—the result of a daring dive for the ball at Jacobs' feet—Brown was led off the field to have three stitches inserted in a nasty head wound.

Brown's departure was the signal for one of the bravest and greatest Wycombe displays in recent years. But, alas, the injury — the result of a pure accident — also led to some disgraceful and stupid behaviour by sections of the Wanderers' supporters who booed and hooted every Corinthian tackle until the end of the game.

During the clamour of this bad-tempered and intense second half a policeman went behind the Casuals' goal, at the referee's request, to silence a whistle-blowing fan.

Wanderers' tremendous fight against odds shamed some of their blinkered supporters. A goal down at half-time—Charles Gale had slammed the ball into his own net trying to clear a flying centre from left-winger John Dutchman — Wycombe dominated the second half and finished the unluckiest of losers.

Only one man—the gravity-defying, superbly confident Corinthian's goalkeeper, John Swannell—stood between Wycombe and a swarm of goals.

All the Wycombe forwards suffered at the hands of Swannell but the most hapless victim was centre-forward Peter James who once lashed in a furious short range drive only to see the elastic limbed goalkeeper flip the ball nonchalantly round a post.

SOCER CRUELTY

This was soccer cruelty. Casuals were so much on the receiving end in the final 40 minutes

that substitute goalkeeper Alastair Lewis only had to touch the ball two or three times before being beaten by Paddy Walsh's unstoppable 87th minute power drive which added the second goal and saved complete humiliation for Casuals.

All the Wycombe players reached the limits of endurance

to make up for the handicap of being a man short but special favourites with the crowd were 'Wee Georgie' Blair, whose trickery and ball control sadly bemused the Casuals at times, and Steve Hyde, who sparkled at outside-left in the first half and found time to prove a surprisingly effective full-back when Lewis went in goal.

The Wanderers' attack, with James and Tommy Holmes showing improved form, fashioned enough shots to have won most games by a wide margin of goals.

First half exchanges were much more even. Although Wanderers built up the majority of the attacks, with Hyde and Len Worley frequently outwitting the visiting full-backs, Casuals looked the more poised and dangerous side. Wingers Dutchman and Jessop were both fleet and direct, and Gale soon made amends for his 27th minute 'own goal' by kicking a Jessop shot off the goal-line after the winger had streaked through the Wycombe defence.

Wycombe—K. Brown; J. Beck, A. Lewis; D. Thomas, J. Fisher, C. Gale; L. Worley, G. Blair, P. James, T. Holmes and S. Hyde.



Ken Brown
his injury led to the booing.